

Chasing the MLB dream

Former Tribe baseball player Chris Rahl finds himself moving up the minor league ranks .
See MAKING HIS NAME page 8



Student dancers bloom

Orchesis presents "An Evening of Dance," featuring student choreography and dancers.
See ORCHESIS page 6



The Flat Hat

The Student Newspaper of the College of William and Mary since 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

Presidential hopefuls square off

BY CHRISTOPHER CONSOLINO
THE FLAT HAT

SA president and vice president candidates sophomores Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins faced off against opponents juniors Brad Potter and Brett Phillips in the SA presidential debate Sunday at 7 p.m. in Lodge 1.

The debate consisted of five-minute opening and closing responses, 10 questions posed to both tickets by moderator and Professor of Government Clay Clemens and roughly 45 minutes of audience questions.

Throughout the debate, both tickets cited the lack of diversity and student involvement in SA as one of their greatest concerns.

"We are appalled by the scant representation of women in the SA," Hopkins said, later noting that this lack of diversity is what convinced her to run on Pilchen's ticket.

"We promise the most diverse cabinet in SA history," Pilchen said.

Potter and Phillips reciprocated the desire for a more diverse SA. "The most important issue is communicating with the 99 percent of students not involved with SA," Phillips said. In an effort to reach out to clubs and organizations, Potter and Phillips proposed the "Tribe

See CANDIDATES page 4



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
Potter and Phillips (Left) and Pilchen and Hopkins (Right)

Up-front cost or pay-as-you-wash?

BY MAXIM LOTT
FLAT HAT ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

In addition to voting on Student Assembly candidates this Thursday, students will take part in a referendum about changing the way students pay for laundry. The referendum would recommend changing the current pay-per-use system to one where all students pay an extra \$20 in room fees at the beginning of each semester, then receive unlimited access to laundry machines.

Advertised as the "free laundry bill," the proposal would be revenue-neutral. Residence Life estimates that the laundry fee of \$20 per semester would cover all costs, based on talks with Caldwell & Gregory, its laundry vendor.

The Facebook.com group for the referendum had over 700 members as of Wednesday, but there was debate on the discussion boards. Critics pointed out

See LAUNDRY page 3

LUCKY NUMBER SEVEN



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT

A Tribe gymnast performs a routine at the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championships this past weekend at Kaplan Arena. The Tribe came out on top of their five opponents, claiming their seventh consecutive title and a record 12th overall. This weekend marked the first time that the College has hosted the event since it was started in 1987. For complete coverage, see Sports, page 8.

MCR sales may lead to bigger names

BY ANDY GARDEN
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

High ticket sales for the My Chemical Romance and Muse spring concert have given UCAB's members reason to smile, the concert's organizers said Wednesday.

According to senior Emmagene Worley, UCAB's Music Committee Chair, the group has sold over 1,000 student tickets for the show, while Ticketmaster has sold several thousand public tickets.

"Sales started out fantastic — all-time highs. We would really like to sell out all the student tickets to make this the biggest show we've had in a really long time," Worley said in an e-mail.

Joe Lowder, the College administrator who worked with UCAB to help bring MCR and Muse, is also pleased with the results. As assistant director of College activities, he helped facilitate the deal between UCAB and the AEG/Artshow, the company that is bringing MCR/Muse to campus.

"The biggest concert here in the recent past was Wilco last year, which was just short of 3,000 attendees, so

already having 4,000 tickets sold is a great sign. UCAB should be pleased," Lowder said in an e-mail.

"Ticket sales are already at levels we have never seen before, but there are 8,000 available," he said. Around 1,200 students tickets remained last week.

Both Worley and Lowder stressed the importance of a successful show in attracting big names to the College in the future.

"If we can get a significant portion of the student body to buy tickets, it would make attracting big name concerts so much easier," Worley said. "Artists would begin to view the College as the kind of venue they want to play, and then it would make getting more and bigger acts easier."

According to Lowder, future big-name concerts at the College will be a "business decision" based on this show's success.

"It is all market based," he said. "If [AEG/Artshow] sees this is a good market for live music, they will probably want to come back."

Worley said that she was happy to book high-profile acts like Muse and My Chemical Romance.

"Muse is one of the top acts in Europe and sold out Wembley Stadium [on] two nights. Not to mention that My Chemical Romance brings the best light, sound, video and pyrotechnics show we will have ever had here at William and Mary. Even if a student is not the biggest My Chemical

Romance fan, this show has a lot to offer," Lowder said.

He praised the band and said that by attending the concert students are increasing the likelihood for high-quality bands at future College

See TICKET page 4



COURTESY PHOTO • MYCHEMICALROMANCE.COM

Soaring ticket sales for MCR may lead to bigger bands coming to campus.

IHOP on Richmond Rd. cited for alleged discrimination



SPENCER ATKINSON • THE FLAT HAT

IHOP allegedly denied service to people based on their race.

BY ALEX GUILLÉN
FLAT HAT ASSOC. REVIEWS EDITOR

According to Williamsburg area resident Kristie Ross, she and her cousin, Sheena Washington, were recently denied service at the International House of Pancakes on Richmond Road because they are black.

Just before 2 a.m. March 10, Ross allegedly was told by the night manager that she was banned from the IHOP, despite never having eaten there before.

"She said 'You people don't know how to act,'" Ross told the Daily Press. "I said, 'Who is you people?'"

According to the Daily Press article, Ross claimed to witness a number of incidents of discrimination while she tried to call the phone number for IHOP's headquarters to complain. Ross said she watched as several groups of white customers were seated while

nearly 40 black customers were turned away.

Another black customer who was denied service, Sherrell Roane, also said she was discriminated against.

"When we looked in, that's all we seen was Caucasian, no African-American people," she said on a WAVY-TV news report.

A white customer, Alaina Northern, was ordering food for a black friend when she said the manager noticed for whom she was ordering.

"She realized the to-go order was for him, and she said she was going to refund the money. She went to the register, got the money, gave it back to me and asked us to leave," Northern said.

Police were already near the IHOP because of an earlier brawl at the Library Tavern. Officers reported that approximately 70 customers, many of whom were black, were turned away between 1 and 2 a.m.

"A lot of them were being very rowdy, cussing," Major Jay Sexton of the Williamsburg Police Department said. He added that IHOP, as a 24-hour restaurant, often has issues with drunk and disorderly late-night customers.

Georgia Owen, the night manager who turned the women away, turned comments over to IHOP spokesman Patrick Lenow. He said that the restaurant may deny service to people who are or previously have been disruptive, and that when one unruly group was asked to leave, some innocent people may accidentally have been denied service in the confusion.

"We're sorry that happened because that is never our intent," Lenow said. "Most important is the safety and security of our guests, and that's why the decision was made."

See IHOP page 4

NEWSINSIGHT

News Editor **Brian Mahoney**
News Editor **Austin Wright**
news@flathatnews.com

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. 23185
Editorial Dept. (757) 221-3281 • Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 • Fax (757) 221-3242
The Flat Hat — editor@flathatnews.com
News — news@flathatnews.com • Variety — variety@flathatnews.com • Sports — sports@flathatnews.com
Reviews — reviews@flathatnews.com • Opinions — opinions@flathatnews.com
Advertising — ads@flathatnews.com

Andy Zahn, Editor-in-Chief
Ashley Baird, Managing Editor • Chase Johnson, Executive Editor
Patrick Bisceglia, Business Manager • Helen Chacon, Accountant

Brian Mahoney, News Editor	Ashley Morgan, Assoc. Variety Editor
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Corrections

In an article last Friday about online courses at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, The Flat Hat said that a quote from professor Eugene Roche came from The Daily Pennsylvanian. Roche said the quote during an interview with Flat Hat Staff Writer Brad Clark.
An article on last Friday’s front page about a senate bill incorrectly stated that Joe Luppino-Esposito is a sophomore. He is a junior.
A story on page four about the College’s religion committee from last Friday incorrectly said that Louise Kale is Director of the Historic Chapel. She is Director of the Historic Campus.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Tuesday



High 87°
Low 59°

Wednesday



High 75°
Low 46°

Thursday



High 58°
Low 41°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“It was a casual kiss. It was the sort of kiss I would give my grandfather.”
- Eva Sandoval, on possible discrimination at an IHOP.
See **IHOP** page 1

“You can’t judge me because of this person or that person starts trouble. You can’t judge every black person because of one.”
-Kristie Ross, a Williamsburg resident who was allegedly discriminated against at the IHOP on Richmond Road.
See **IHOP** page 1

News in Brief

Powell named to Cisco Board of Directors

Michael K. Powell, the College’s current rector and former FCC Chair was appointed to Cisco’s Board of Directors Mar. 22 according to Associated Press reports. Cisco Systems Inc. makes routers and switches that direct data traffic over computer networks.
“[Powell’s] broad experience with the communications sector — from his support of affordable, widespread broadband deployment in the United States while FCC chairman, to his understanding of the enormous possibilities created by the convergence of data, voice and video — makes him an invaluable addition to the board,” John Chambers, chairman and CEO of Cisco, said in a statement.

— by Morgan Figa

By the Numbers

23.6 percent

The percent of The College budget that is funded by the State of Virginia. 35.5 percent comes from tuition and student fees, while government grants, donations and other sources make up the rest.

16 percent

Athletic spending amounts to 16 percent of all spending on academic instruction and support at the College, according to the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Executive Summary. Academic instruction and support includes faculty salaries and department funding as well as library and IT services.

205 feet

The vertical drop on “Griffon,” the nearly-completed roller coaster at Busch Gardens. It will open May 25 and is being advertised as the world’s tallest dive coaster without a floor.

25 percent

The percentage of Americans who believe in horoscopes, according to a June 2005 Gallup poll of 1,002 adults. See the Flat Hat’s horoscopes on page 6.

118

The death rate, per 100,000 of fisherman and fishing workers. Fishing work is the most dangerous profession, according to a 2005 report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • COPYRIGHT URIS

A UVA employee was fired in 2005 but argued her free speech rights were violated when she protested.

BEYOND THE BURG

Former U.Va. employee protests her firing

By ANGELA COTA
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Ongoing controversy at the University of Virginia over the firing of former Human Resources Senior Recruiter Dena Bowers continues with a federal judge’s ruling for another trial regarding whether or not she had enough time to defend herself prior to her dismissal.

Bowers was fired from her position in Nov. 2005 over an e-mail she sent to a co-worker from her university e-mail account about an issue that did not represent the views of the university.

Bowers attached documents and charts Oct. 11, 2005, from an NAACP meeting she had attended the previous night to an e-mail sent to a fellow employee and member who had missed the meeting.

The documents criticized proposed state legislation on the University Medical Center’s pay scale.

The co-worker then forwarded the e-mail to hundreds of people with a mistaken note saying that Bowers had prepared the documents.

Bowers was then fired on the grounds that she had used her “university title” to distribute documents that did not represent the university’s view.

Her electronic signature on the e-mail caused this problem, because it misled people to think she was representing the university.

Bowers also refused to identify the source of the documents, and the judge ruled that she was justified in this. Bowers claimed that her First Amendment rights were violated because she protested her firing, which she also felt was wrongful.

Judge Norman K. Moon of the U.S. District Court in Charlottesville presided over the case, which took place last Friday.

He ignored the issue of her firing because it is a state employment law issue. Moon instead investigated whether Bowers’ constitutional rights were violated.

He ended up dismissing Bowers’ First Amendment claims, finding that the officials who fired her at U.Va. did not violate her First Amendment rights.

Bowers also claimed that her right of due process was violated, and that she did not have enough time to defend herself before she was fired.

Moon denied the due process claim, but he gave the opportunity for a trial to determine whether Bowers was given a chance to speak at the meeting in which she was fired.

Bower’s lawyer said that Bowers is not satisfied with the ruling concerning her amendments rights and plans to appeal.

However, according to Legal Director of the National Workrights Institute Jeremy Gruber in The Chronicle of Higher Education, “Employees rarely, if ever, succeed if they send something on the employer’s e-mail system.”

This week in Flat Hat history

1930

Rogers Hall reportedly suffered \$100,000 worth of damage after a fire that started in the elevator shaft and spread, destroying the entire roof. The roof windows and third floor were completely destroyed by the flames and the upper stories had to be rebuilt. The College managed to move all classes except for labs, so no classes were canceled.

1966

According to a survey done by campus political science professors, 40 percent of students at the College were in favor of escalating U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Twenty of the 663 students surveyed were in favor of immediate withdrawal of troops. A survey of faculty members found that 39.6 percent favored a withdrawal and 31 percent supported current policy.

1979

A proposal for a student “Fall Break” was given to then-President Thomas Graves to be ruled on later that week. The recommendation from the Academic Calendar Advisory Committee suggested that students get a weekend plus Monday and Tuesday off in the middle of October each year.

1985

The Rev. Jerry Falwell spoke at the College in front of 2,000 students, 100 of whom were protesters. He came to the College at the request of Doug Phillips, chairman of the Young Americans for Freedom. Phillips’ father was the national director of the Conservative caucus. Falwell described the College as “more than any other school part of the old Virginia aristocracy where you don’t see such activism for the left or the right.”

— compiled by Morgan Figa

STREET BEAT

Are you planning on voting in the SA election?



Heck yes! Because all students should vote.

Janelle Richardson, junior



As Diddy said, ‘Vote or Die,’ and I’d rather choose the former.

Brian Chiglinski, freshman



Yes ‘cause it takes very little time to vote, but it’s for people who spend a lot of time helping us.

Shane Cooley, freshman



I’m voting because Peter and John are running and I want to leave the school in good hands.

Kathryn Waller, senior

— photos and interviews by Jonathan Seiden

CITY POLICE BEAT

Mar. 17 to Mar. 23

Saturday, March 17 — A 36-year-old male was arrested at 1300 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. The suspect was described as a black male, 6’02. **1**

Monday, March 19 — A 25-year-old

female was arrested at 100 Matoaka Court and charged with driving under the influence. The suspect was described as a white female, 5’3, 135 pounds with blue eyes and blonde hair. **2**

Wednesday, March 21 — An unidentified

male was arrested at 3000 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. **1**

— A 35-year-old male was arrested at 44 Duke of Gloucester Street and charged with being drunk in public. The suspect was described as a white male, 6’0. **3**

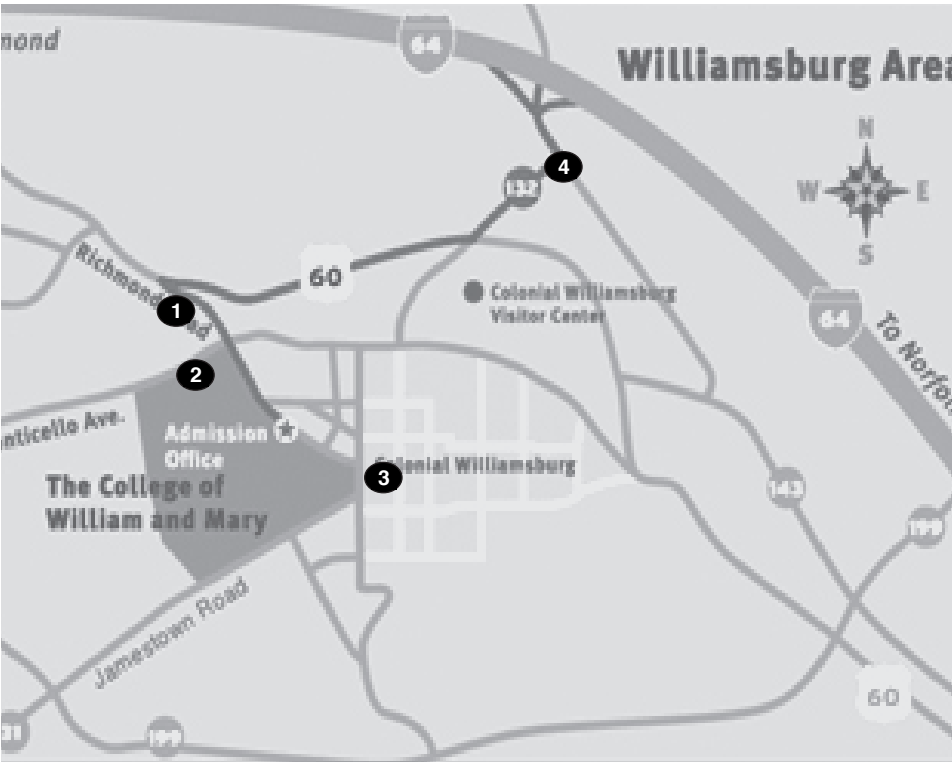
Thursday, March 22 — An 18-year-old male was arrested at 1230 Richmond Road and charged with embezzlement. The estimated amount embezzled was \$495.60. The suspect was described as a black male, 6’1 in height, 180 pounds, brown eyes and black hair. **1**

Friday, March 23 — A 28-year-old male was arrested at 1200 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. The suspect was described as white male, 5’8 pounds, 160 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. **1**

— A 25-year-old male was arrested at 1200 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public and possession of marijuana. The suspect was described as a white male, 5’8, 200 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. **1**

— An unidentified male was arrested at 1000 Capitol Lodge Road and charged with driving under the influence. The suspect was described as a white male. **4**

—compiled by Morgan Figa



SA Review Board drops case against Scofield

By Austin Wright
Flat Hat News Editor

The Student Assembly Review Board voted against hearing a case filed by sophomore Cliff Dunn — who formerly worked within the SA executive’s Finance Department — against SA President senior Ryan Scofield and his secretary of finance, senior Bradley Justus.

The case was largely symbolic, as the Review Board has no punishment powers, and resulted from conflicting interpretations of SA procedures: what Dunn considered robbery, the Scofield administration considered standard operating procedure, causing a dispute about whether precedent can trump SA rules when allocating money to student organizations.

Until recently, the SA code said that presidents cannot allocate more than \$750 from the speakers fund, campus events fund, multi-cultural event fund, new event initiative fund or conference fund without approval from the Executive Appropriations Committee. The code was amended by the Student Organizational Funding Act II, which allows presidents to allocate up to \$3,000 without approval from the senate.

Before the amendment, Scofield routinely allocated more than \$750 to student organizations. Justus said the administration was following a precedent set three years ago by former SA President Brian Cannon, under whom the finance code was written.

“[The senate] let the precedent ride instead of the unusable code,” Justus said, noting that it was widely known that the administration did not adhere to the rules. “Anybody who’s in favor of an SA that’s actually responsive to students ... has to see this as a code that hinders the SA’s ability to help the students.”

He added that Dunn never approached anyone about the issue before filing the case.

Dunn, who is currently running for SA senate, said he decided not to talk to anyone about his concerns because Scofield and Justus had previously ignored his other unrelated complaints. He filed the case and sent them a letter of resignation from his position within the Finance Department, to which Scofield replied: “Unfortunately, neither Bradley nor I are prepared to accept your resignation. But I can offer you this ... you’re fired. Thanks for nothing, Ryan.”

Scofield said he was angry with Dunn for filing the case without discussing the issue with him.

“He was very unprofessional, personally hurtful and cowardly in his actions,” Scofield said. “Frankly, he was wasting everyone’s time in a futile effort to make a name for himself in light of the upcoming

general elections. He used to meet weekly with Bradley and had regular access to me if he ever had a problem with anything.”

Dunn said he filed the case to bring the issue to the public eye. “It seems like we have these rules for a reason. One would think there’s a reason behind them,” he said. “They’ve been robbing the bank for a while, and they need to stop it.”

Dunn also expressed concerns about the potential for the president to break the current limit of \$3,000, since he was breaking the previous limit.

Justus responded by saying that the senate chose not to enforce the \$750 limit because it was unreasonable, but now they would be willing to enforce the \$3,000 limit.

SA Senators Walter McClean and Matt Beato, both sophomores, sponsored the Student Organizational Funding Act II in order to end the inconsistency between how much the code says can be allocated by the president and how much actually is allocated.

The bill says that the \$750 limit has become outdated and unrealistic.

In a statement submitted by Scofield and Justus to the Review Board — which issued a statement Friday saying it found insufficient reason to hear the case — they said that the senate had already solved the problem through legislation that incorporates the precedent into the code.

“The senate took the high road and rather than bring a case, they changed the legislation — a much more appropriate, professional and responsible approach to resolving problems at this level of student government,” Scofield said.



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
Scofield said that he was dissapointed with the allegations and Dunn's conduct during the ordeal.

ALLOCATIONS THIS YEAR, PRIOR TO SOFA II	
Organizations Requesting Funds	Amount Allocated
Chinese Student Organization	\$1,800
Post - Modern Art Club	\$1,750
Student Assembly, Brad Potter	\$1,500
Mystic Theatre	\$1,500
Delta Delta Delta, Alpha Chi Omega	\$1,200
VOX, From the Margin, Lambda, ...	\$1,200
Orientation	\$1,010
Green & Gold Affair	\$1,000
MECA, Progressive Alliance	\$1,000
UCAB	\$1,000
Greek Life	\$1,000
Chicas Latinas Unidas	\$1,000
Muslim Student Association	\$1,000
HOPE	\$1,000
Asian Student Council	\$1,000
SIGH, Project Mexico	\$1,000
Outer Limits	\$900
Student Cares Team	\$750
VSA	\$650
HCO	\$600
Students Defending Democracy	\$525
UCAB	\$500
Classical Studies Club	\$500
African Cultural Society-Building Tomorrow	\$500
Outer Limits	\$450
Jamestown-Ludwell Hall Councils	\$450
Anthropology Graduate Students	\$410
Students for a Democratic Society	\$400
VOX	\$375
Muslim Student Association	\$375
Composer’s League	\$350
W&M Progressive, Roy R. Charles Center	\$350
Intervarsity	\$325
HCO & UCAB	\$320
Persian Student Organization	\$300
The Wesley Foundation	\$300
SEAC	\$300
Muslim Student Association	\$250
HCO	\$225
Tidewater Labor Support Committee	\$200
Catholic Campus Ministry	\$200
Russian Club	\$200
Wizards & Muggles	\$200
IMPACT!Humanity, IR Club	\$129
John Locke Society	\$100
Libertarian Students, Americans for ...	\$100
Students for Sensible Drug Policy	\$100
Libertarian Students & Biology Club	\$100
Maasai American Student Association	\$75
John Locke Society	\$75
Anthropology Graduate Students	\$26
Alpha Phi Alpha - African Am. Male Coalition	\$0
WCWM	\$0

Nichol delivers acceptance letter

By Jessica Taubman
The Flat Hat

Darryl Stephens, a senior at Armstrong High School in the urban center of Richmond, will be a member of the incoming class of 2011.

Stephens, a foster-child who aspires to be a pediatric neurosurgeon, is on his way to earning a college education thanks to Gateway William and Mary.

Introduced by President Nichol Aug. 26, 2005, Gateway William and Mary offers exceptional in-state students who would otherwise not be able to financially afford college a way to attend the College without having to take out loans.

The program allows these students to graduate college debt-free. The aid package, worth \$50,000, will cover tuition, room and board, textbooks and fees. About 45 incoming freshmen will receive similar packages, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

When Gateway William and Mary was first introduced, President Nichol told William and Mary News his goals for the program.

“William and Mary is determined to live up to its heritage to be both great and public,” Nichol said. To do so, we must ensure that Virginians from all backgrounds can enjoy the benefits of our programs. This innovative effort is in keeping with Thomas Jefferson’s aspiration that ‘worth and genius [be] sought from every condition of life.’”

President Nichol presented Stephens, 17, with the full-aid package to the College.

“This is a very generous package from us,” Nichol said to the Richmond Times-Dispatch. “We’re investing in this young man.”

The College called Stephens at his high school for what he assumed was a college admissions interview. When he arrived to the conference room, however, he was awarded the financial aid package instead.

Among the many people to congratulate Darryl were Virginia State Senator Benjamin J. Lambert III and Louis W. Sullivan, George H.W. Bush’s Secretary of Health and Human Services, who had traveled from Atlanta to applaud Stephens, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Sullivan and Senator Lambert are chairman and vice-chairman of the Virginia-Nebraska Alliance, a group whose aim is to increase the number of minorities in the health-care profession.

With the help of the Virginia-Nebraska Alliance, Stephens was put in contact with Partnership for the Future, which first piqued his interest in the College.

Along with the distinguished guests who shared in the moment, Stephens was also greeted by familiar faces. An assistant principal who shared her home with Stephens before he moved into a group home last year and a director from Owens & Minor, a supply-chain solutions company that Stephens has worked for the past three summers were also present, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

“It’s a dream come true,” Stephens said as he clasped his letter.

According to William and Mary News, the applicant pool for the class of 2010 was the most diverse ever with 2,179 students of color applying to the College. This is an increase of over one hundred applicants compared to last year’s pool.

“[The College] is hoping that we can continue to be creative in terms of how we reach out to a variety of audiences and populations across the Commonwealth and across the nation,” Associate Provost for Enrollment Earl Granger said.

Author Mann a Hunter fellow

By Dorothy Park
The Flat Hat

The College recently named Thomas E. Mann the 2007 Hunter B. Andrews Fellow in American Politics.

Established in 1998 to honor the late state senator and College alumnus, the Hunter B. Andrews Fellowship has allowed the College community the privilege of interacting with distinguished public figures including U.S. Congressman and noted civil rights leader John Lewis, journalist, editor and author Walter Isaacson and Sandy Berger, national security advisor to President Bill Clinton.

Among the several activities planned for him, Mann is looking forward to the upcoming public forum, which will be held March 26 and 27 in Tucker 120 at 7:30

p.m.

“I will make an initial presentation on ‘Have the 2006 Elections Begun to Mend the Broken Branch?’ This will include assessing how well the new Democratic majorities in Congress are doing relative to the commitments they made prior to the election,” Mann said.

Mann majored in political science as an undergraduate student at the University of Florida. While pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, He was granted an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship.

After the fellowship, Mann served a staff position at the APSA. There he later served as executive director designed and executed a poll for Representative James G. O’Hara, completed and defended his dissertation,

collaborated with Ornstein on a Congress Project sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute and served as Director of Governmental Studies at the Brookings Institution, where he today serves as the W. Averell Harriman Chair and Senior Fellow in Governance Studies. The Brookings Institution is one of America’s premier policy think tanks. Mann’s current projects include studies on election reform, redistricting, campaign finance and congressional reform.

The political scientist and author embraces both scholarship and public affairs and sees his visit to the College as yet another interesting opportunity.

“I hope to make a case [to students] for serious engagement in public life — as citizens, public servants, politicians and public intellectuals,” Mann said.

New IR curriculum emphasizes research

By Dorothy Park
The Flat Hat

Beginning this fall, students who declare an international relations major will tackle a new curriculum. Created by faculty in May 2006, it will also serve as a framework to eventually establish the College as the nation’s premier institution for undergraduate IR studies.

“Part of it is building on what we already have [of] undergraduate research,” Director of International Relations Michael J. Tierney said.

The original curriculum placed a strong emphasis on government: three of the four core courses were from that department. Changes include two more core classes from the economics department and one each from history and international relations. There is also an addition of social and cultural contexts, methods and capstone components.

Current and prospective IR majors have only until the end of this

semester to decide between the two curriculums before the new requirements are enforced.

Junior Lauren Triner likes the revised standards and welcomes taking both international trade theory and policy and international finance.

“I know this sounds ridiculous, but I really am looking forward to the advanced econ classes. That is the part that most people are dreading, but I think that it really is a crucial part of the major,” Triner said.

Her opinion mirrors the department’s aim to have a more global perspective.

“It’s difficult to understand IR without a strong grasp on international economy,” Tierney said.

History courses make up the bulk of the social and cultural contexts portion of the curriculum. As resources become available in the future, the IR department hopes to give history the same emphasis that economics will have.

The methods requirement is designed to familiarize students

with the methodological tools of disciplines contributing to the IR major. Coupled with a Capstone independent research project, students will be equipped to succeed in whatever path they choose after graduation.

“Research is important. Skills you learn by going through that process are applicable whether you want to go be a professor or work for the World Bank, the CIA, State Department, Green Peace or go to law school,” Tierney said.

“Research has never really been my thing, but at the same time, it is a great skill to have. And I know that I will be glad that I took the class once I finish it,” Triner said.

Another student, sophomore Maham Akbar, found a more attractive option.

“I think I can do the same with the government and middle eastern studies majors as I would have with the IR and Middle Eastern studies majors,” Akbar said.

However, Akbar also had to make a concession. “Economics and trade are a huge part of international rela-

Free laundry?

LAUNDRY from page 1

that if students did not have to pay for each load, they might use more washers or do laundry more often, which would waste water and raise the cost for other students.

Chancellor Professor of Economics Robert Archibald agreed that students would do more laundry because they would not have to pay for each load.

“The economics is pretty straightforward,” he said.

However, Deb Boykin, director of Residence Life at the College, said that she did not expect increased use of the laundry machines.

“Who do you know that likes to do laundry?” she said.

She also said that other universities had not seen an increase in use after implementing similar payment plans. SA senator and sponsor of the bill Andrew Blasi, ’10, agreed.

“One dollar and 25 cents per load is itself not a large enough deterrent to prevent a person from really doing as many loads as currently necessary,” he said.

Archibald acknowledged that the monetary cost may not be the main reason students avoid doing laundry, but said that the effect of not making students pay was still clear: they would do more laundry.

“It’s an empirical question about the magnitude of the effect. But the direction is clear,” he said.

Another issue is the fairness of making all students pay for a service that not everyone uses and that some use more than others.

“Clean people would be helped out by the more slovenly,” Archibald said. “There might also be a gender discrepancy.”

Blasi argues that there were other services that all students pay for, even if they might not use them.

“For the few who live in a dorm/apartment who do not already utilize the laundry machines, they will now have access to the machines through their room fee in much the same way many of us currently pay for kitchen facilities that we may or may not use,” he said.

Residence Life supports the proposal because it hopes the new system would be less of a hassle for students.

According to Deb Boykin, several other colleges operate under the proposed system, although some have per semester fees of as high as \$80.

If the referendum passes, the BOV will still have to decide whether to accept the plan and increase room fees.

Blasi has raised awareness over the bill through a group on Facebook.com called “wooah, free laundry?”

Thus far, over 700 students have joined the group. The discussion board for the group included both praise and criticism for the bill.

Many students on the discussion board claimed that they spend less than \$40 on laundry.

Candidates debate

CANDIDATES from page 1

Vibe”—a program in which the SA would “highlight” an on-campus event for students to attend every week, according to Phillips.

Potter and Phillips questioned Pilchen’s limited senate experience and Hopkins’s lack of any SA record. Phillips stressed the importance of “knowing how the senate works, its bylaws and its history.” Pilchen and Hopkins noted that their ticket would bring a fresh perspective and the student voice back into the SA. “They’ve never been an outsider. They don’t know what it’s like. I do,” Hopkins said.

While Pilchen and Hopkins spent most of the debate focusing on initiatives ranging from implementing a “Tribe-Wide Service Day” — where students would be given a holiday from classes to participate in local community service — to petitioning for student access to course syllabi and textbooks prior to registration, Potter and Phillips noted that their platform prioritizes issues “that affect students day-to-day,” Porter said.

Potter and Phillips said that they would petition the College to join the Chicago Climate Exchange and work to implement their flex-car

program. “[Flex-Car] is like our bike program only with a car,” Phillips said. “It makes it easy for freshmen and sophomores who don’t have a car on campus to get around.”

Pilchen and Hopkins expressed similar concern for introducing more environmentally-friendly policies across campus. Pilchen cited his work with bringing the Youth Energy Summit to campus along with plans to foster a more environmentally-conscious student body through recycling drives and campus-wide service projects.

Both tickets expressed differing views on the alcohol amnesty policy. During the debate, Pilchen said he would work to require Campus Police to follow the amnesty policy while also working with administration to lessen punishment for students who take the initiative to join alcoholic support groups. While Potter noted that “extending amnesty to the police is a waste of time,” he said that there could be other steps taken to make campus drinking more responsible.

SA elections will take place March 29 on the Student Information Network from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

IHOP questioned

IHOP from page 1

“It’s discrimination in the worst way when you say you can’t be seated because you don’t know how to act,” Ross told the Daily Press. “You can’t judge me because this person or that person starts trouble. You can’t judge every black person because of one.”

Ross said that she has contacted the NAACP, which is looking into the matter and may conduct an official investigation. Calls to the local NAACP office went unanswered.

This racial discrimination suit comes on the tail of a similar suit against IHOP. According to the March 24 Wichita Star, four women were forced to leave a Kansas City IHOP earlier this month after two of them kissed.

According to the women, the kiss was tame.

“It was a casual kiss,” one of the women, Eva Sandoval, said. “It was the sort of kiss I would give my grandfather.”

IHOP, however, claims that the kiss was overtly amorous and that the manager asked the women to tone down the public display.

“We’re welcoming to all. That’s how we built our business for 50 years,” Lenow said. “What’s not welcome at our restaurants are bold displays of affection, with open-mouth kissing and caressing.”

The women, along with gay rights group PROMO, the Missouri LGBT equality organization, protested outside the Kansas City IHOP last Friday. They initially demanded an official apology and for the manager to be fired, although they later demanded only sensitivity training.

Under the MICROSCOPE

◆ GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTS TEMPERATURES, BREAKFAST CONDIMENT

By KATE PRENGAMAN
FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST

We have all heard enough dire predictions about global warming to expect the consequences at the gas pump or in the heating bill if fossil fuel costs continue to rise in an attempt to reduce high consumption. But have you realized that those consequences may even reach your breakfast table? Pancakes and waffles are potentially at risk for being served solo, as maple syrup producers and their trees struggle to adapt to the warmer winter weather in New England.

Producers across Vermont have suffered drastically reduced syrup production in the past few seasons, which, according to scientists, is a symptom of the maple trees not experiencing the normal cold winter season to which they are accustomed. The trees respond to climate cues, which instruct them when to flower, when to drop leaves in the fall and, most importantly for the syrup industry, when to begin spring sap production.

To make matters worse, it’s not just the trees that are confused. The producers are struggling to understand the subtle changes in the trees’ rhythms in order to modify their practices. Traditionally, trees were tapped in early March when the sap began to flow and left to collect for up to six weeks. The early sap is widely considered the higher quality, so there is a downside to missing the start of the season, but it is also dangerous to too soon. The trees can only handle a tap for so long before bacteria invade and make the sap unusable.

Barrett Rock, a professor of natural resources at the University of New Hampshire, talked to the New York Times about the difficulties of adapting syrup production to a changing environment.

“It’s a real conundrum the sugar producers face,”

Rock said. “Do I tap early to catch the early sap flow, or do I wait until the regular season and maybe not get the highest quality syrup, but the tap flow remains open until the first buds on trees in April?”

The warming trends of the past half-century correlate with an overall trend of declining syrup production in Vermont in the past 40 years. There have been good years with cold snaps and bad years without, but the trend does not look good for Vermont. The state has pride and tourist money invested in the maple syrup industry, from family farms to festivals. Now, instead of Vermont producing 80 percent of the world’s maple syrup in New England A they did a half century ago, our Canadian neighbors to the north have taken over, leaving the US with only about 20 percent of the market.

Many scientists and producers believe that this shift in production is aligned with temperature increases. Canada’s climate is becoming what Vermont’s used to be, and the maple trees are responding accordingly. Dr. Tim Perkins, from the University of Vermont’s Maple Research Center, told the Times that global climate change will have dire consequences to Vermont’s maple syrup industry.

“One hundred to 200 years from now there may be very few maples [in Vermont], mainly oak, hickory and pine. There are projections that say over about 110 years our climate will be similar to that of Virginia,” Perkins said.

Burr Morse, whose family has been making syrup for generations, told the Times that he has seen the trees starting to produce sap early for the past decade. He is still producing, but his yields have declined from 1,000 gallons of syrup to only 700.

“How many winters are we going to go with Decembers turning into short-sleeve weather before the maple trees say, ‘I don’t like it here any more?’” Morse said.

Ticket sales may lead to bigger names

TICKET from page 1

concerts.

“They both put on unforgettable live shows, complete with all sorts of theatrics combined with great

musicianship,” Worley said. “What better way to help make a difference in the quality of entertainment at the College than attending a quality concert? This show is going to be spectacular,” she added.

The My Chemical Romance and Muse show is at 8:00 p.m. April 28. Student tickets are \$16 and are available at the Kaplan Arena box office from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. daily until they sell out.



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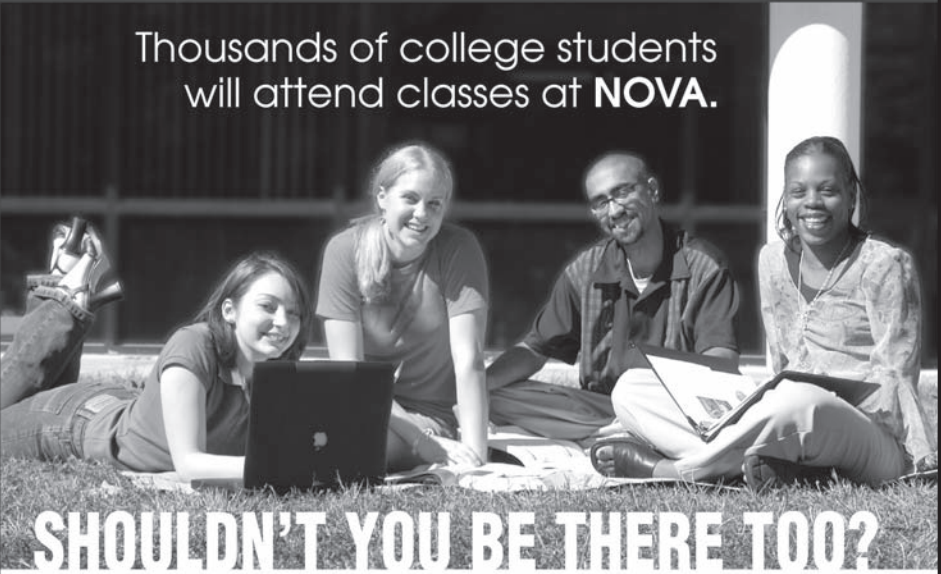
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Pilchen for president

The Student Assembly has arrived at a critical juncture. Thursday’s elections will mark the end of seniors Ryan Scofield and Amanda Norris’ two-year tenure as SA president and vice president, and the students of the College face an important choice in determining who will respond to and address their concerns in the coming year. We believe that voters would be wise to select sophomores Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins as the next president and vice president of the Student Assembly.

Over the past weekend, members of The Flat Hat’s editorial board sat down with the candidates to hear what they had to say about themselves, their candidacies and their plans if elected. While we were impressed with what both tickets had to say, we find Pilchen and Hopkins to be the better choice. Both Pilchen and Hopkins exhibit energy and enthusiasm that will be vital to an SA that has fallen out of touch with the students it represents. Their platform of fresh, new ideas shows a more creative approach to town and gown issues, sexual assault prevention and education and campus alcohol policy, and we believe that their goals have the potential to rejuvenate an SA that is long overdue for change.

We are impressed with Pilchen’s record as both a senator and as an incredibly involved student over the past year. He was ranked at the top of The Flat Hat’s Fall Senate Report Card for 2006, which ranked the senators’ effectiveness. He has responded to individual students’ concerns about the new alcohol amnesty program, often communicating directly with Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler and advocating the creation of a cabinet position on student rights. Pilchen has also been more proactive than any other senator in addressing the issue of city-student relationships, particularly the three-person housing rule. Moreover, his commitment to tackling the bureaucratic complexity of

the senate and administration will, we hope, lead to a more even dispersal of power and responsibility within the student government. This will provide a welcome departure from a micromanaging executive branch that consists of government majors with overly complex titles who do little or nothing to help students.

Hopkins is a great match for Pilchen’s energy, experience and commitment. As the only candidate not currently affiliated with the SA, Hopkins brings a new and honest perspective to the race, and she is uniquely qualified for the job. Her time as a resident assistant and a member of the College’s Judicial Council gives her a fresh and balanced insight into sexual assault, alcohol and substance policies as well as the general workings of the administration. She will complement Pilchen in addressing city

relations and SA efficiency, two of the most critical issues for the next year.

It should be noted that Hopkins has written for The Flat Hat on five different occasions, but was never on

staff, and the majority of her work was done last fall.

The Flat Hat was impressed with the experience of juniors Brad Potter and Brett Phillips, and much of their platform seems original and beneficial to the student body. Ultimately, however, we believe that their priorities are misplaced. We do not question their dedication, but we do wonder if they would be assertive on some of the more controversial issues. We found this question more difficult to answer after our meeting with Potter than after speaking with Pilchen. Additionally, we worry that Potter and Phillips’ experience may be a negative feature of their campaign — that perhaps they represent a continuation of the less-than-effective SA administrations of the past several years. The SA and the students of the College need change. They need Pilchen and Hopkins.

Both Pilchen and Hopkins exhibit energy and enthusiasm that will be vital to an SA that has fallen out of touch with the students it represents.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

A senator speaks out

Class of ’09 senator describes SA inefficiency before upcoming elections

For the sake of clarity, this is a strongly opinionated article. Therefore, I want to clearly say that the motivation behind this exposition on the Student Assembly is for the purpose of exposition itself.

My name is Sean Sheppard, and I am one of four senators who represent the Class of 2009. I hold a few titles: secretary of the Student Life and the College Policy Committees and senate liaison for the Student Life Department. I miss a lot of committee meetings. The ones that I go to, I rarely take minutes. According to The Flat Hat Senate Report Card, I am the fifth-ranked senator. Not to discredit their methods, but I have done relatively little on the floor to merit number five out of

The current structure of the SA advocates time wasting and senseless organizing of departments, committees and cabinets.

16. I have co-sponsored a number of bills, but have done very, very little solo work. I guess it’s easy being number five. Out of my entire year of service, the time I was most active was during campaigning. I witnessed first hand how much “students like stickers more than student empowerment.” We make stickers in the SA, we’re a rubber stamp with invisible ink, an ineffective recommendation process tied down with bureaucracy and completely directed by outside forces.

Our “representatives” are the main contributors to the misuse of an incredible resource that is a self-constituted, self-governed SA. The current structure of the SA advocates time-wasting and senseless organization of departments, committees and cabinets. It sounds like an exaggeration, but the group of people in the SA who actually do anything is limited to a handful out of the supposed 100 who claim it on their resumes and on their Facebook profiles. The senate is in charge of \$150,000 in consolidated reserves; it is the reason why we have some senate meetings that last three hours, two-thirds of which is spent debating the allocation of \$680 for campus beautification, and the remaining one-third steam-rolling a series of impractical bills.

Perhaps it is because of my half-involvement, but I feel that the entire SA is a secretive organization. Only the students directly involved and their close friends recognize what the SA is really doing. However, the relationship between the SA and the College’s administration is a strong one, but is based on total subservience; it is not conversational for the

purpose of representation, but for implementation. Maybe that is why we are hiding.

The lack of communication between the student body and the SA has a direct correlation with one of the most fundamental bodies of student governance: the Department of Internal Affairs. Most of the bills in the senate are internal affairs bills, and the executive branch spends more time dealing with these bills than with those from any of the four other departments. Measures were taken to prevent internal affairs bills the second half of this semester, and the result has been an overwhelming lack of substantive legislation.

The departments of Student Life and College Policy are the two most important to the average student; these departments are supposed to be fostering a good social and academic atmosphere, working with the administration to solve problems like grade inflation, lack of social spaces, alcohol and substance abuse and so forth.

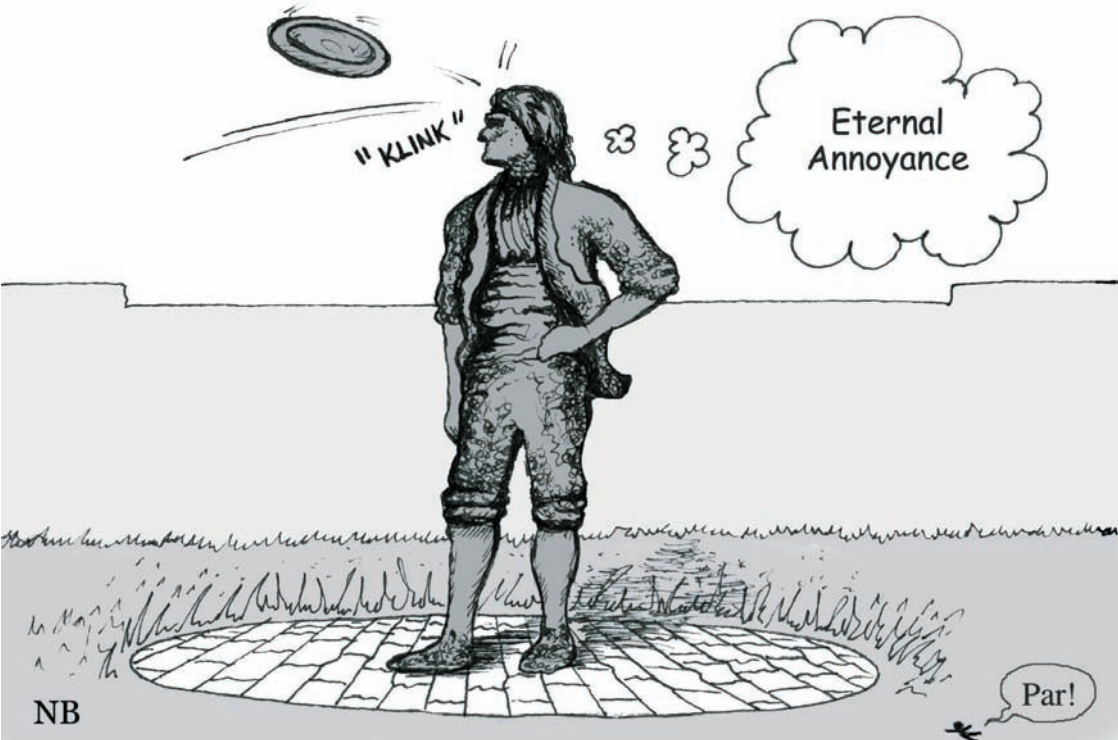
Before I finish, I’m going to hit the sensitive nerves that no one on our campus likes to talk about. Of the 16 undergraduate

positions, we have one black and two female senators; 14 senators are government majors, none of the 16 are openly gay or bisexual. We can’t force underrepresented students to run for office. The executive could appoint a less homogenous cabinet, and not make the politically correct move of appointing the only black member to the Department of Diversity Initiatives. Admittedly, the school is 80 percent white; that would require 12 white senators for accurate representation. But it is also 55 percent female. Where are the eight female senators?

This sort of criticism is hasty and one-sided. It is meant to fulfill an agenda of sensationalism. As elected representatives, we do have a responsibility that has not yet been defined by the actions of our predecessors. I am sorry for not representing the Class of 2009 as I was supposed to.

Apathy is not real to the individual; apathy is a condition of the masses, and each day that you act with reason and intention, apathy loses strength in the collective sense. Direct some of your time and energy to this community at the College, and you may find that there are some incredible resources to be had and utilized. On March 29, cast your SA vote wisely and demand something for your commitment.

Sean Sheppard, a sophomore at the College, is a Student Assembly senator. He is running for reelection.



By NATE BURGESS, FLAT HAT GRAPHICS EDITOR

Communal bike dilemma

Many of us remember the good days when one could find a shiny, bright orange, albeit decrepit community bicycle waiting somewhere on campus to ride. They were free of charge and yours whenever you could find

one. They were a lot of fun and very useful. Get to class quickly — no problem. Go to the market — easy. Replacing this system after some two years of absence is the new communal bike system. You can now check out a bike from the University Center with great ease whenever there is someone at the info desk. If you don’t return it by 7 a.m. the next day, you will be the proud recipient of a \$10 fine. Not returned by the day after? — a \$50 fine, as more than a few people I know have found out.

Make no mistake, I fully support communal bikes, and I appreciate the efforts of those who have made them possible. However, I am opposed to policies that make riding them a risky and potentially financially devastating endeavor. So, I propose a new two-tiered community bike program.

First, extend the rental period of UC communal bikes to 24 hours. This will encourage greater use and ensure that we needn’t wake up before 7 a.m. Second, bring back the orange communal bikes. How? Easy. Every year at the end of spring semester, the campus police seize in the area of 100 bikes that students leave behind. In the fall there is a bike sale, where proceeds go to the police department at \$25 per bike. The unsold bikes are thrown into a dumpster, many of them requiring only scant attention to be rideable again.

I am opposed to policies that make riding [communal bikes] a risky and potentially financially devastating endeavor.

These are our bikes, not the police department’s. The sale should take place as scheduled, but the proceeds should be returned to the Student Assembly and placed in a communal bike fund. All unsold bikes should become communal bikes and be placed around campus for use at will. Proceeds from the bike sale will pay for the maintenance necessary to get them running and to paint them orange.

The problem with the old bike system was that people didn’t take care of the bikes. They became unrideable, a simple illustration of the tragedy of the commons. Many of you would say that would just happen again. You would be right. Even with efforts to instill proper behavior and respect for bicycles, they would very likely end up with flat tires, missing handlebars and in locations such as streams and trees.

However, I suggest we not worry too much about that. There will be a new fleet next year. Let’s suppose the bike sale sells 80 bicycles, or even a conservative estimate of 40. At \$25 per bike, that would be \$1,000 — more than enough to cover initial maintenance, painting and roundup and disposal of bikes at the end of the year. As to finding and maintaining these

bikes, we can simply throw the now-likely-destroyed communal bikes into a dumpster, having given them one more year of use. The beauty of this system is that there is no additional cost to the student body, and there would be bikes for everyone to ride, with a new supply forthcoming every year. At the same time, we would improve and maintain the UC bike check-out system, still allowing for an opportunity to ride a more dependable bicycle that you could lock up when the need arises.

Dan Idziak, a junior at the College, is running for

No such thing as a free lunch

We’ve all thrown away unfinished food and “borrowed” utensils. We know students who hoard whole loaves of bread in their backpacks. Your kitchen sink brims with the translucent cups of the University

Center; at the Daily Grind, you notice that their orange and green plates resemble those of the Caf. Across campus we see it: abandoned containers of pizza, wasted milk gone sour, forks, cups, trays and cheese — it’s been said that an entire wheel of Baby Swiss was once stolen from the Caf.

So who’s paying for the stolen silverware and wasted

food? Apparently, we are. At the Caf I met up with Dining Services District Manager Phil DiBenedetto. He is a ball of contagious energy, the type of personality that makes everyone in the room light up. He is talkative, lighthearted

and easy going. He doesn’t consider the theft situation an “epidemic.”

According to DiBenedetto, the budget for plates and utensils has grown. “We spent about \$16,123 a year at the University Center and a little less at the Commons — about \$15,328 for a total of over \$31,451 a year to replace plates, bowls, glasses, forks, knives and spoons,” DiBenedetto said. This wasn’t entirely a product of theft, as many of the kitchen supplies simply break or are accidentally thrown away.

DiBenedetto doesn’t believe in strict enforcement. “I’d hope I wouldn’t have to baby sit,” he said. He explained his philosophy to me. “The honor code doesn’t just apply to academics ... it applies to every aspect of your life. This is a finite College, where everyone knows everyone. When you steal from the Caf or sneak into the UC, everyone pays.” It’s not just about the money; it’s a matter of human decency. “If you’re in a tight spot and need food, they’ll let you in — you don’t have to sneak in the back or steal. Just ask.”

The increase in meal prices has less to do with sto-

len items or wasted food and more to do with economics. Because of inflation, the price of food has gone up. According to the Consumer Price Index, the cost of food has increased between 4 and 5 percent from last year. While Dining Services hasn’t jumped on the “organic foods” wagon (which would put meal prices through the roof), they have implemented healthy option choices, which yields a slight increase in preparation time as well as food costs.

“I think students come in and see that the food here is unlimited,” DiBenedetto smiled. “It is, but it isn’t.” He put it this way: if you were at home, you wouldn’t be wasting all that food because you’d be paying for it. What students don’t realize is that we’re paying for it here, and that we’re only hurting ourselves.

The Board of Dining Services doesn’t see a need for enforcement or regulation.

In my opinion, with regard to food, it’s okay to fill your plate, so long as you clear it. As for the kitchenware situation, prison rules should be applied. To each his own bowl and spoon. Food left behind or taken

home should be tracked down the culprit fined heavily: you can charge Steve for helping himself to that rather generous second serving of mashed potatoes, or Stephanie for leaving behind that pizza crust. The

Honor Council should have a hand in the operation, cracking down on food hoarders. Prosecution should be lethal and circumspect. Stolen silverware should win you a charge of larceny. Thefts greater than \$25 should pronounce you an instant felon.

Another idea would be to serve the students with the rarest, most ornate silverware you can find: bedecked seventeenth-century French flatware, or the immaculate porcelain plates used at Yalta. This way, students will be extra cautious in losing or damaging items and encouraged to saran wrap their plates so as to leave these antiques spotless.

And if they do have the balls to lift a spoon of Louis XIV, they’ll be in a ring of shit, responsible for hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost goods.

Sherif Abdelkarim, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His columns appear every Tuesday.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WOMEN’S TENNIS



Returning home its first match since Feb. 18, the 17th-ranked Tribe defeated 60th-ranked University of Pennsylvania 7-0, and the College now stands at 13-1 on the season. The doubles duo of sophomore Klaudyna Kasztelaniec and freshman Lauren Sabacinski rallied from a 1-6 deficit to take down Penn’s number three doubles team 9-8 (7) in a tiebreaker to spur the Tribe on to victory. Last week, the CAA named freshman Ragini Acharya singles player of the week and senior Megan Moulton-Levy (*left*) and sophomore Katarina Zoricic — the nation’s number one doubles team — the CAA Doubles Team of the Week. The College returns to action April 3 against Old Dominion University on the Busch Courts at 4:30 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Women’s cross country and track and field Head Coach Kathy Newberry competed at the World Cross Country Championships in Mombasa, Kenya Saturday. Newberry raced to a 39th place finish and completed the 8-km course in 29 minutes 54 seconds as Team USA finished eighth in the 12-team field. High heat and humidity forced many competitors out of the race and considerably slowed the field. Netherlands’ Lornah Kiplagat captured the gold medal, finishing in 26:23, while Ethiopia won the team title over host-nation Kenya.

WOMEN’S GYMNASTICS

Last Friday, the College competed at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and finished fifth in the five-team field with 189.225 points. Two Tribe gymnasts — juniors Stevie Waldman and Tricia Long — placed in the top 10. Waldman took fifth in the floor exercise and eighth on the uneven bars, while Long took fifth in the overall competition. The College’s next competition is the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships in Ithaca, N.Y. this Saturday.



WOMEN’S GOLF

The Tribe hosted the W&M Invitational at Ford’s Colony over the weekend and finished 12th out of 19 teams. Junior Marissa Sprick shot a 76 in round two and led the College with a 22nd-place finish. Western Michigan University narrowly defeated Methodist University by two strokes, while Western Michigan’s Laura Bavaird took the individual title. The Tribe will resume competition at the Illini Spring Classic April 6-7 in Urbana, Ill.

TRACK AND FIELD

Senior Bonnie Meekins hit the NCAA Championships provisional qualifying mark in the heptathlon at this past weekend’s Alabama Relays in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Meekins finished third with 5,003 points. Meanwhile, at the Fred Hardy Invitational in Richmond, sophomore Lynn Morelli won the 5,000-meter in 17 minutes, 27.07 seconds. On the men’s side, sophomore David Groff and senior Matt Wolak eclipsed the IC4A qualifying time in the 800-m finishing in second and third respectively, with times of 1:51.76 and 1:52.22. The College hosts the Tribe Invitational this Saturday at Zable Stadium.

By Andrew Pike. Tennis photo by Jonathan Seiden, The Flat Hat. Gymnastics photo courtesy of www.TribeAthletics.com.



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
The Tribe soared above the competition at the USAG Championships.

Men’s gymnastics wins 7th title in row

GYMNASTICS from page 8

junior Dave Locke led the floor event with a tied score of 9.25, marking a season and career-high for Crawford and a season-best for Locke. The two also led the high bar event with Crawford earning a career-high score of 8.7 while Locke received a 9.0. Freshman Derek Gygax also performed very well, placing second in the all-around with a total score of 48.850.

The top eight individual scorers competed in the individual event Sunday and the College had the maximum two gymnasts competing in each event. Nine Tribe gymnasts earned 11 All-America Honors. Locke claimed gold in the vault event and earned a total of three honors while Hunt came in first

in the parallel bar event for the second season in a row. Gygax and freshman classmate Richard Pearson represented the Tribe on the pommel horse, earning third and sixth place respectively. Competing on the rings, junior Aaron Ingram captured fifth and senior Chuck Portz placed seventh. Senior Gustav Lindquist took sixth on the vault for his third USAG Collegiate All-America honor. Senior Dave Ridings finished third on the parallel bars and Crawford placed fifth on the floor exercise.

The men look forward to continuing their reign this weekend as the Tribe will travel to Philadelphia, Pa. to compete in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championship.

MEN’S TENNIS: TRIBE 2, OKLAHOMA 4

Tribe goes 1-2 in road swing

College defeats MTSU for second time in a week, then falls to Rice and Oklahoma

BY HEATHER IRELAND
THE FLAT HAT

This past weekend the men’s tennis team competed at the 46th annual Rice National Tennis Invitational, winning their first match against Middle Tennessee State University but falling short in the last two matches versus Rice University and the University of Oklahoma.

39th-ranked Middle Tennessee started off with the team doubles point for the early lead Friday, but was unable to keep their lead for the win, eventually losing to the Tribe 4-3. After losing the first singles match, the College fought back with sophomore Marwan Ramadan earning a win over his opponent 6-2, 6-4. Giving up just one other point, the Tribe won the last three singles matches, as junior Alex Cojanu, sophomore Alex Zuck and freshman Keziel Juneau all came out on top over the MTSU competition. Juneau’s opponent was ranked nationally, but was defeated nevertheless.

“I am proud of the way this team battled with its back against the wall,” Head Coach Peter Daub said. “We lost the doubles point and were down 3-1. We needed to win all three matches on the court, and we did just that. This was a great team effort. The best thing about this team is that someone different steps up every time we have needed it. We have a group of individuals that seize the opportunity when it is presented to them.”

Up against 24th-ranked host team Rice, the College was unable to secure a second straight win. No doubles matches were played, so the match relied on the skill of the singles players. The sole Tribe player to defeat his Rice



SARAH GRAYCE • THE FLAT HAT
The 33rd-ranked Tribe men’s tennis lost two of their three matches this weekend at the Rice Invitational in Houston, Texas. The team’s next opponent is CAA and in-state rival Old Dominion.

opponent was Juneau, who fought through three sets for his 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 victory.

50th-ranked Oklahoma upset the Tribe on the last day of competition Sunday, defeating the 33rd-ranked Tribe. The Tribe did pick up the cushion of the team doubles point after the nationally ranked team of Cojanu and Juneau won their doubles match, 9-7, and senior Colin O’Brien and sophomore Dominic Pagon dispatched their opponents 8-5 to clinch the team point. Unfortunately, Juneau was the only

Tribe athlete to pull out a win in singles play, defeating his opponent 6-3, 6-3, but that was not enough for the Tribe to defeat Oklahoma. This marked the third win at the invitational for Oklahoma, while the Tribe’s invitational record fell to 1-2.

The Tribe is now preparing to host CAA foe Old Dominion University April 3 on the Busch Courts at 4:30 p.m. ODU is still undefeated in the CAA and holds a ranking of 26th in the country.

Rahl hopes to fulfill MLB dreams

RAHL from page 8

the first time ever for a Tribe athlete or a sophomore in the conference. His 20 home runs and 40 steals in the same season were also league firsts. Rahl’s outstanding season landed him on numerous first and second-team All-American lists in addition to the record books. He left school after his junior year when he was drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks with the first pick in the fifth round of the 2005 amateur draft, finishing his career with a cumulative .335 average, 37 home runs, 74 stolen bases and 134 runs batted in. Last year, after a mediocre first season of professional baseball and off-season surgery to repair a damaged shoulder, Rahl reminded the baseball world why he was so highly praised after his 2004 college season. As a member of the Diamondbacks’ High-A affiliate, the Lancaster Jet Hawks, he led all minor leaguers with 186 hits — 11 more than any other player — and set a Jet Hawks team record with 44 doubles while posting a .327 batting average.

Rahl has graciously allowed The Flat Hat special access to follow his progress in this coming season, as he hopes to build upon the previous year’s success and continue his journey toward the major leagues. In a time when professional athletes are often portrayed as selfish, arrogant and childish by the media, Rahl is a refreshing change of pace. He has met his early success with grounded humility, yet the passionate ambition that has driven this success is readily apparent.

The transition from life as a college student to life as a professional baseball player is not an easy one; however, Rahl has handled it well on and off the field. He is quick to give credit to his time at the College, particularly former Head Coach Jim Farr and Assistant Coach

Ryan Wheeler, who both played professional baseball earlier in their careers, and the high level of talent in the CAA.

“A lot of the practice sessions and how we went about doing our work on the field were very similar to the work we do in the minor leagues,” Rahl said. “When I started, I felt very comfortable and fell right into place and it felt like I was back at school working out with the guys at William and Mary, making it a very easy transition for me.”

One of the biggest difficulties, beyond having to take care of himself, has been the three-hour time difference separating him from his family and girlfriend on the East Coast.

On the diamond, Rahl’s journey to the major leagues has not been without obstacles. After his breakout sophomore campaign in 2004, Rahl’s production dipped.

“My sophomore year I had a really good year, and coming into my junior year it got to my head a little bit. I tried to do too much with the pitching that I did see,” Rahl said. “I saw a lot more off-speed pitches and guys tried to pitch around me some, and instead of taking what they did give to me and relaxing at the plate, I sometimes over-stressed it and went out of the zone a little bit.”

Rahl vowed not to fall into complacency again. After he rebounded last season in 2006 with another great year, Rahl has worked hard over the off-season to take his game to the next level. His main goal was to add strength and speed in order to increase his home run and stolen base totals in the coming season. Since moving from right field to the more difficult position of center field last season, Rahl has also made a dedicated effort to improve his defense.

“I think that the biggest thing last year for me was getting used to playing center field, getting reads on balls and good jumps and

taking correct routes to balls,” Rahl said. “And, especially in a place like Lancaster where the wind blows out and is blowing all over the place, you have to take correct routes to the ball or you’re not going to be a very good outfielder.”

Perhaps the most apparent holes in Rahl’s game are a below average strikeout to walk ratio and a low walk rate, a weakness that Rahl readily acknowledges and is determined to improve, beginning with a change of mentality.

“That’s definitely an issue that I focused on [while playing in the Hawaiian Winter League this off-season], and it may not show in my stats — in Hawaii I didn’t really hit very well — but it’s definitely something I was working on,” Rahl said. “I’ve been trying to focus on a two-strike approach and putting the ball in play more with two strikes, as opposed to in college, where my approach was to go for the home run, and if I struck out, ‘Oh, well.’ I think that I’m going to try to utilize my speed more this season and in coming seasons, and put the ball in play more with two strikes, and that way I can make things happen and make the opposing defense actually work to get me out.”

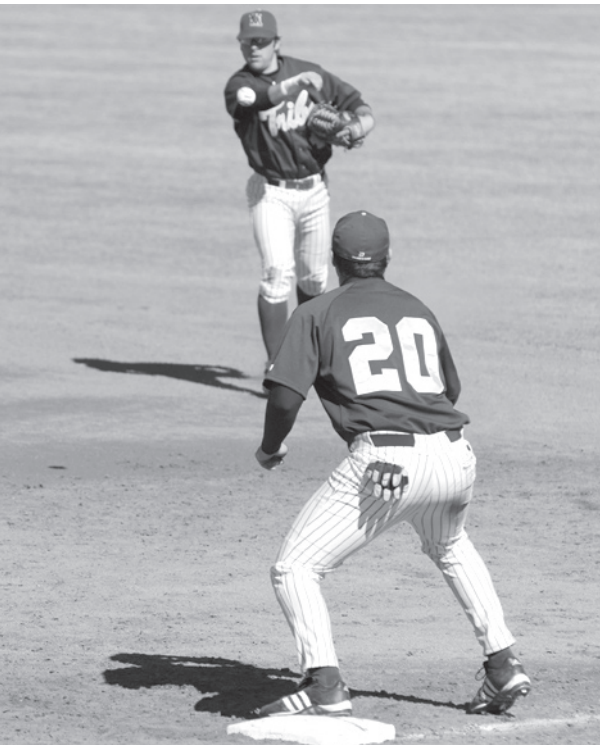
While his batting average and home run totals sagged against the tougher competition of the Hawaiian Winter League, Rahl showed tremendous improvement in these areas in a limited number of at-bats, nearly doubling a walk-rate that had more or less held constant throughout his professional career.

“Playing professional baseball has definitely always been a dream for me, and I always told myself whenever I got a chance I would take that, because you never know what can happen in the future.”

With his positive attitude, the future certainly looks bright for Chris Rahl.

Baseball bests Dukes in 3-game series

BASEBALL from page 8



SARAH GRAYCE • THE FLAT HAT
Having won six of their last seven games, Tribe baseball now stands 8-4 in the CAA and 15-12 overall.

streak by a score of 6-7. Freshman Kevin Landry (3-3) took the loss. The Tribe kicked off the contest with a strong 2-0 start as Park and second baseman McWhorter batted consecutive singles en route to scoring in the inning. Both Park and McWhorter smashed solo home runs in the third to push the Tribe lead to 4-0, but the College could not hold the advantage as the Dukes plated six in the next three innings. Sophomore right fielder Robbie Nickle doubled and scored in the eighth and McWhorter homered again in the ninth, but the effort was not enough to overtake the JMU lead. The Tribe finished with 10 hits and McWhorter went 3-for-5 on the day with two solo home runs, three runs scored and a stolen base. McWhorter’s impressive weekend earned him the CAA Player of the Week award.

“McWhorter really carried the weekend for us, but it was a team effort [by the entire batting lineup],” Leoni said.

The Tribe ended the series against the Dukes with a 12-6 win in the third game,

scoring in every inning but one. Junior Pat Kantakevich (2-0) pitched over six innings and threw six strikeouts, and Vernon entered in relief totaling four strikeouts.

“Kantakevich pitched as well as I’ve seen him pitch since I’ve been here,” Leoni said.

The College started strong, bringing in four runs in the first. After Park was hit by a pitch, McWhorter doubled, and a double down the right field line from Sexton scored Park and McWhorter on an error. Sophomore first baseman Mike Sheridan singled, advancing Sexton to third. After Nickle drew a walk, Maliniak grounded into a double play and Sheridan advanced as Sexton scored. Sheridan then scored on a double from sophomore shortstop Lanny Stanfield. JMU responded to the College’s 7-0 lead in the fourth with three runs, but Nickle led off with a home run to right field in the next inning to silence the Dukes. The Tribe finished with 13 hits and seven stolen bases. Sexton led the Tribe going 3-for-4 with four RBI.

The College will face VMI at home Wednesday at 7 p.m.

FROM THE SIDELINES

Durant would be wise to stay another year

Forget all the gripes about the lack of upsets in the early rounds of the NCAA tournament; the most frustrating point in this year’s tourney was the University of Texas’ second round loss to the University of Southern California. It’s not that I bleed Texas burnt orange. I don’t even profess the slightest trace of fandom. What made this loss so frustrating is that it was most likely the last time we will ever see Longhorn freshman and national player of the year Kevin Durant in a college uniform.



Carl Siegmund

To update anyone living under a rock for the last several months, Durant pretty much owned his opponents in the Big 12 Conference and across the country. While at times Durant showed his youth in several of Texas’ close losses, he managed to average an impressive 25 points and 11 rebounds per game. But enough of the hype. I’ll leave that for Dick Vitale and company.

It’s almost certain that Durant, one of the most exciting players to watch in college basketball this year, will be drafted number one or two in this summer’s NBA draft, forfeiting his remaining three years of college eligibility. Given a big time contract and a sweet shoe endorsement, who could say no to the NBA? History says both Durant and Ohio State University freshman phenom Greg Oden, who is also predicted to be drafted in the top two, will take the money and run.

Durant and Oden are part of the first class to be affected by the NBA’s rule increasing its minimum age of entry to 19 or a year removed from high school. For fans of college basketball this rule is bittersweet, but for the NBA it is very logical. Billed as the second coming of Tracy McGrady, Durant’s draft status can only go down if he remains in college. It would seem stupid not to declare for this summer’s draft. But surprisingly, Durant says he’s still unsure. He likes college, and not only does he enjoy going to class, he maintains over a 3.0 GPA. He’s also known to have a penchant for munching on gummy worms at team study halls and playing video games. The next Tracy McGrady? Really?

The one-and-done policy has angered some, most notably Texas Tech University head coach Bob Knight, who said the rule is the worst thing to happen to college basketball since he started coaching. Players have no incentive to go to class or do well in school with big bucks waiting. Why even give a scholarship to a kid who may only stay one year?

Knight can cry all he wants, but this rule makes sense. Fans benefit. Who wouldn’t salivate at the thought of the future LeBron James’ of the world playing college basketball? Even if it was only for a year, it still helps increase the popularity of the under-appreciated college game. Players benefit both physically and mentally from the experience. Durant’s raw athleticism and his freak-of-nature 7-foot-5 inch wingspan made him a sure-fire prospect out of high school, but he needed this year to gain enough body strength for the rough NBA. And for Durant, who is by all means still a kid, this rule makes sense from a maturity standpoint. The NBA is sick of providing babysitting services to players who come straight out of high school.

It will be interesting to see what Durant, Oden and other college freshman decide to do after this year. History says they bolt for the NBA, but they may set a precedent by staying in college for more than one year. I hope so.

Carl Siegmund is an associate news editor for The Flat Hat.

MEN’S GYMNASTICS: TRIBE 199.850, NAVY (SECOND PLACE) 198.000

Seventh heaven



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
The College hosted the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championships this past weekend, and the Tribe came out on top, collecting their 12th championship.

College claims seventh consecutive USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championships title in front of home crowd

BY KATE TEDESCO
THE FLAT HAT

This was a big weekend for the men’s gymnastics team as the College hosted and won the USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Team Championship. The Tribe took the gold for the seventh consecutive year with a score of 199.85, improving their season record to 15-6. The team has won the event a record 12 times since entering the competition in

1994. The USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Team Meet is held for schools that receive below a certain level of funding, and the athletes generally do not receive scholarships. The competition has been running since 1987, but this marks the first time the College has hosted the event. Gymnasts and observers from across the country filled Kaplan Arena the entire weekend. Along with friends and family members,

Blaine Wilson — an Olympic silver medalist, three-time Olympian, and national champion — attended and signed autographs for fans. The Tribe competed against five varsity level teams — the United States Naval Academy, the United States Air Force Academy, Springfield College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and James Madison University. The College trailed the Navy Midshipmen — the Tribe’s toughest competitor —

before pulling through in the floor corps with a season-high score of 35.75. “This was definitely one of the most exciting meets in my career at the College,” junior Andrew Hunt said. “We were down the entire meet to Navy and managed to do really well on the floor performances and win it in the last rotation.” Sophomore Sloan Crawford and

See GYMNASTICS page 7

SPORTS FEATURE

Making his name

Chris Rahl, former Tribe baseball player, hopes to make it in MLB

BY CHRIS BURKS
THE FLAT HAT

While Tribe athletic teams might not compete for championships on an annual basis, the College has seen many alumni go on to have highly successful careers in professional sports. Alumnus and NFL safety Darren Sharper has been a perennial Pro bowler in his 10 years with the Packers and Vikings, while last season, former Tribe pitcher Chris Ray won the Baltimore Orioles’ closer role and went on to post a stellar 2.73 ERA over 66 innings in his first

full season in the majors, converting 33 of 38 save opportunities on the year. Perhaps the next great Tribe athlete to leave his mark on the professional scene will be Arizona Diamondbacks minor league outfielder Chris Rahl. Recruited out of Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake, Va., Tribe outfielder Rahl had a breakout sophomore season in 2004, hitting for a .389 average and 20 home runs while stealing 40 bases and driving in 70 runs. He was named CAA Player of the Year,



COURTESY PHOTO • WILLIAM AND MARY SPORTS INFO
Rahl had a breakout season for the Tribe in 2004.

See RAHL page 7

BASEBALL: TRIBE 12, JAMES MADISON 6

College takes 2 of 3 from JMU, goes to 8-4 in CAA

Team has won 6 of its last 7 games; travels to Maryland today

BY MADDY WOLFERT
THE FLAT HAT

Last weekend the Tribe went on the road riding a four-game winning streak into Harrisonburg to face the James Madison University Dukes and came away successful, taking the series 2-1. The two wins push the College’s record to 15-12 overall and 8-4 in the CAA. “Our offense was pretty relentless all weekend,” Head Coach Frank Leoni said. “We’re very happy with where we are offensively.” The College stretched its winning streak to five games after defeating JMU 11-8 in the first contest. The Tribe broke through a 3-3 knot in the top of the sixth inning when senior designated hitter Brent McWhorter singled to score junior center fielder Paul Juliano. Senior

third baseman Greg Sexton followed with a homer to left field, sending home McWhorter and junior catcher Tim Park. The College also played big in the eighth, starting with a school record-breaking double from Sexton — the 60th double of his career. Junior left fielder Greg Maliniak capped the inning with a grand slam to put the Tribe ahead 11-5. The Dukes rallied in the ninth to bring in three runs, but they were unable to surpass the Tribe advantage. Junior Pete Vernon (4-2) earned the win in relief. “Vernon did an outstanding job in relief for us,” Leoni said. “He came into a situation where we were ahead but JMU was making a comeback at the time and he delivered the victory.” In the second game, JMU broke the Tribe winning

See BASEBALL page 7



SARAH GRAYCE • THE FLAT HAT
Tribe baseball, now 8-4 in the CAA, travels to Maryland today and hosts VMI tomorrow at 7 p.m.